(b) what is the response of Government to the above proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) A 'Strategic Planning Group' on restructuring the National Oil Industry, with members comprising of top management from public and Private Sector and leading experts from academic and research institutes, has been formed. The group has not yet submitted its Report.

Recommendation of expert panel on pricing of petroleum product

2542. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the expert panel has recommended abolition of administered price mechanism, to be substituted by market mechanism, as reported in a section of the press on the 8th March, 1995; and

(b) if so, what is the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) A 'Strategic Planning Group' on restructuring the National Oil Industry, with members comprising of top management from Public and Private Sector and leading experts from academic and research institutes, has been formed. The group has not yet submitted its Report.

Medical treatment of petroleum PSU employees abroad

2543. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether employees working in PSUs like I.O.C., O.N.G.C., Gas Authority of India Ltd., and others have been sent abroad for medical treatment on Government expenses during the last three years till date, duly recommended by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas as per his Ministry's policy/ guidelines, in consultation with D.G.H.S. and Ministry of Finance;

(b) if so, what was the expenditure borne by his Ministry/Undertaking in respect of such employees, category-wise and year-wise/indicating the nature of ailments/illness approved/recommended for treatment abroad during the last three years, with names of each P.S.U. under his Ministry; and

(c) whether, after the recent globalisation and liberalisation of Economic Policy, any fresh guidelines were issued and if not, whether it is proposed to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir. Only one person from Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) has been sent to Royal Bromption Heart & Lung Hospital, London on 24.2.92 with the approval of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare through the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

(b) The patient was suffering from Severe Chronic Obstructive Airways disease and a total expenditure of Rs. 2,47,895/- was incurred by IOC towards hospitalisation & Air journey of the patient in February, 1992.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration.